

# The Sporting View

BY BOB LUPO

Back when Torrance was a quiet little burg instead of the bustling, budding metropolis it has suddenly become, a local high school boy made international political headlines and went on to become America's top collegiate miler and an all-time sports great.

The lad was the much-celebrated "Zamp"—Louie Zamperini, who held the interscholastic mile record for more than a decade and the intercollegiate mark for about as long.

But Zamperini—who first vaulted to true prominence in 1936 when he courageously climbed a flagpole in Berlin to indicate his lack of reverence for the Nazi swastika—would have never had the courage to predict what has happened to the mile run.

**PREPS FASTER NOW**

Zamperini, who made the Olympic team in 1936 in the 5000 meters, set the NCAA mile record of 4:08.3 in 1940 while running for SC.

His high school record was 4:21.3, an almost incredible performance in those days for a schoolboy. Yet today it's a commonplace high school mark, and several preps have run under Zamperini's college record. A couple have flirted with the once-mythical four-minute mile.

Today blase track fans hohum at a four-minute mile. And a guy who ran back to Zamperini's 4:08.3 would have trouble getting invited to a major meet.

Even the Track Nuts—an organization of statistical fiends—has lost track of the number of sub-four-minute miles.

**'LITTLE OLYMPICS'**

Something of the ne plus ultra of mile running will be on display Friday night at the Los Angeles Coliseum when the "Little Olympics" resumes for the second time since its imposed absence during the Dodger swag at the Santa Barbara Avenue sports emporium.

A field of nine runners

will include seven men who are bitterly disappointed at times as slow as four minutes, and two others who expect to reach that once-magic mark in any outing.

Heading the list, of course, will be Peter Snell, the bridegroom from New Zealand, who astonished LA fans last year by running away from Dyrrol Burleson like a sprinter to breeze home in 3:56.1, an American record, then bouncing up the 73 flights of stone Coliseum steps to the upper press box for a TV interview—without drawing a deep breath.

**MILE'S THE MOST**

In virtually every event on the Relays program Friday night world record holders, Olympic champions and their leading rivals will vie. The sprints feature the two stoutest, swiftest horses going. The pole vault is loaded with 16-foot fibreglass fliers. Seven-foot high jumpers will be coming out of the stands—and the relay races will pose threats to world records. Ad infinitum.

But the big attraction will be, as in every track meet, the magic event in which Torrance's Lou Zamperini was once a pouncing tiger—the magic mile.

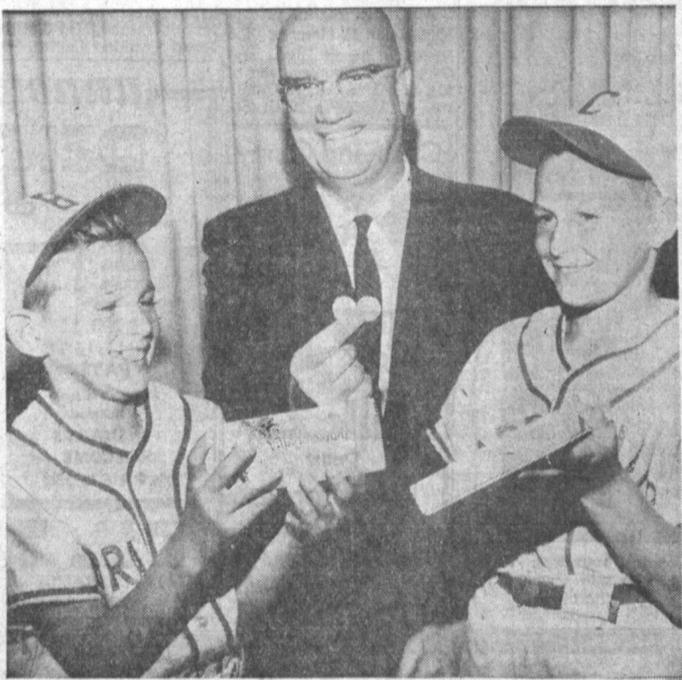
That, alone, is worth the trip to what annually is the world's most exciting track meet, barring only the Olympics.

**WHERE'LL IT END?**

If you get a chance to ask Zamp, he'd probably tell you the same thing, and he'd probably wonder as we all do, where will it all end?

If the men at the helm refrain from pushing the button, maybe today's milers will be astonished some day the way Zamperini has been. All the evidence indicates that man is nowhere near reaching his physical optimum.

Of course, if the button is ever pushed, we'll be astonished in a different way. And what a blast that'll be.



**CANDY SALE** continuing through May 19 is aimed at furthering activities of Torrance National Little League. Dr. J. H. Hull, center, superintendent of Torrance schools, and league vice-president, is helping Curtis Ankerberg, left, of the Braves,

and Robert Jones of the Cardinals map out plans for continuing the door-to-door sale at 50 cents a box. The money will go for equipment, and the boys who sell the most will get prizes.

—PRESS photo

## HARVEY TEAM BIDS FOR LAURELS AT INDY

The lightweight racers roared into Indianapolis this week to prove that the rear-engine concept belongs at the home of the checkered flag.

Five rear-engine cars, built by Mickey Thompson for the Harvey Aluminum factory team of Torrance, are trackside to seek qualifying honors for the Memorial Day spectacle of speed.

"The three cars have a more favorable power to weight ratio than the average Indianapolis roadster," said Thompson. "Calculated on dry weight, the conventional Speedway car has a 3.8-to-1 ratio, while our '63 models have a 2.9-to-1. This

should enable us to accelerate out of the turns more rapidly."

Two of the pilots for the new racers are 1962 world's driving champion, Graham Hill and sports car ace Bill Krause. No driver has been announced for Harvey's Titanium special, the third new car. All three are equipped for 12-inch wheels with wide-tread tires developed by Firestone and Thompson. Total tire widths

are nine inches front and 12 inches rear. Ground clearance is 4½ inches. Knock-offs holding the wheels are removed with a power wrench instead of the traditional hammer.

The titanium special features usage of the space metal for the entire chassis, pedals, steering column, suspension A arms, radius rods, adapters for the suspension ball joints, gear change lever, and other "classified" applications.

The two remodeled Harvey Aluminum Specials from last year's 500 will be driven by Grand Prix star Masten Gregory and Indy veteran Bill Cheesbourg.

All five cars are powered by Chevrolet aluminum V-8 engines. The aluminum power plant puts out over 350 hp at a range between 6000 and 8000 rpm. Displacement is 255 cubic inches.

"Our newest automotive advancements in aluminum and other light metals are incorporated in the cars," said Lawrence A. Harvey, president of the aluminum firm. "This practical research program develops products for the auto industry which improve performance and provide greater reliability through weight reduction."

Thompson, speed equipment manufacturer and holder of over 60 U.S. and international speed records is also automotive consultant to the primary aluminum producer.

## COLT LEAGUE OPENS WITH TWO GAMES

Torrance Colt League opened its season last Sunday with a double-header.

In the first game the Tigers beat the Giants 9 to 3. Paul Romero did the hurdling for the winners and although he allowed six hits they were scattered. He helped his own cause along when he blasted a triple in the fifth inning. Jack Maroni pitched for the Giants and allowed seven hits but also issued 12 walks.

In the night cap between the Angels and the Braves Steve Kealey of the Angels hurled a two hit shut-out. He struck out 16 of the Braves and didn't walk a one. To help his own cause along he also hit a pair of triples. Dan Disrud started for the Braves and was relieved in the fourth by Bill Valles. Final score was Angels, 6; Braves, 0.

Use classified, DA 5-1515

## Anchor Shuts Out Senators; Hornaday Stars

Behind the one-hit pitching of Bob Hornaday, the Anchor Mortgage White Sox shut out the Bill Salby Mobil Gas Senators, 10 to 1. Danny Smith was the only runner to reach first base for the Senators and was promptly put out when he tried to go to second. Hornaday's bat accounted for two runs for the White Sox and Terry Springfield tripled in two more.

The Elwood Nursery Dodgers earlier in the week

## Texas Pastor To Speak Here

Dr. Levi Price, pastor of First Baptist Church, Monahans, Texas, will be the speaker at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services today at Narbonne Avenue Baptist Church, Lomita. He will also speak at the evening worship service at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Price is currently serving as chairman of the board for the Texas Baptist Standard, and he is serving on the executive board of the Texas Baptist Convention. He is an honors graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

beat the White Sox, 10 to 1. George Sharp pitched a two-hitter and got three singles in the hitting department for the Dodgers. Bobby Hibbard poled his first Little League home run and Jim Tobin hit a double and a single to add to the Dodger slugging. Tobin sparked the all-around good fielding of the Dodgers.

The Dominguez Water Co. Cubs beat the Seven-Up Yankees in a heartbreaker 4 to 3 with Larry Brown, the Cub strikeout artist, whiffing 17. The Yankees got only one hit, a home run in the top of the sixth inning by Deenie Gibson, the opposing pitcher, that tied up the ball game as two men had got on base with a walk and hit batter. But Gibson who had only given up three hits and struck out thirteen, suddenly could not find the plate. Four walks between Gibson and relief pitcher Bruce Netherly decided the contest.

Minor League Results —

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## Mrs. Hansford, Howard Wood PTA Cited

Mrs. John H. Hansford, 23019 Kathryn Ave., Torrance, and the Howard Wood PTA will receive certificates of appreciation for volunteer community service from the Los Angeles County Health Department.

Volunteers from the Centinela-South Bay area meeting at the Lawndale Health Center on May 17 to honor the awardees at a "Koffee Klatch."

Mrs. Hansford is sponsored by the Dianas of Redondo Beach. She volunteers at the baby clinic held in the North Redondo Toy Loan Center and conducted by the County Health Department.

The Howard Wood PTA sponsors volunteers at the Torrance Health Center child health clinic and conference. The volunteers are Marion Hawley, Marie Foote, Donna Mosier and Frances Coveney.

Volunteer coordinator, Mrs. Howard M. Tegart, Beverly Hills, will speak on the urgent need for more volunteers by the Los Angeles County Health Department baby clinics. Mrs. Te-

gart, a volunteer, is volunteer recruitment chairman of 72 cities served by the Department for all the unincorporated partment.

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